

# **The economic transformation of the Soviet Union, 1913–1945**

*Edited by*

**R. W. Davies**  
**Mark Harrison**  
**S. G. Wheatcroft**



# Contents

---

<i>List of figures</i>	<i>page</i> x
<i>List of maps</i>	xi
<i>List of tables</i>	xii
<i>Notes on contributors</i>	xv
<i>Preface</i>	xvii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xxiii
<i>Major events in Russian and Soviet economic development</i>	xxiv
<b>1</b> <b>Changing economic systems: an overview</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>R. W. Davies</i>	
(A) The Tsarist economy	1
(B) War Communism	5
(C) The New Economic Policy	8
(D) The Stalinist administrative economy	13
<b>2</b> <b>The crooked mirror of Soviet economic statistics</b>	<b>24</b>
<i>S. G. Wheatcroft and R. W. Davies</i>	
(A) A brief history of Russian and Soviet statistics	25
(B) Distortions	30
(C) Re-evaluations	33
<b>3</b> <b>National income</b>	<b>38</b>
<i>Mark Harrison</i>	
(A) The growth of total output	41
(B) The level of development	45
(C) Investment and consumption	48
(D) The development model: a summary	53
<b>4</b> <b>Population</b>	<b>57</b>
<i>S. G. Wheatcroft and R. W. Davies</i>	
(A) The eve of the First World War	58
(B) World war and civil war, 1914–1922	60
(C) The mid-1920s	64
(D) Years of tumult and disaster, 1929–1939	67
(E) The Second World War, 1939–1945	77

<b>5 Employment and industrial labour</b>	<b>81</b>
<i>J. D. Barber and R. W. Davies</i>	
I Employment	82
(A) Eve of war	82
(B) From Tsarism to NEP	83
(C) The impact of industrialisation	85
II Industrial labour	92
(A) Eve of war	92
(B) In transition, 1914–1927	94
(C) 1928–1941	95
<b>6 Agriculture</b>	<b>106</b>
<i>S. G. Wheatcroft and R. W. Davies</i>	
(A) Before the First World War	107
(B) War and reconstruction, 1914–1927	110
(C) The transformation of agriculture, 1928–1941: production	113
(D) Factors influencing production, 1928–1941	117
(E) Labour productivity, 1928–1941	129
<b>7 Industry</b>	<b>131</b>
<i>R. W. Davies</i>	
(A) The eve of the First World War	132
(B) From Tsarism to NEP	135
(C) During NEP, 1921–1928	135
(D) Industry under central planning, 1929–1941	136
<b>8 Transport</b>	<b>158</b>
<i>J. N. Westwood</i>	
(A) The government and the railways	159
(B) Railway traffic	161
(C) Railway investment	168
(D) Labour	173
(E) Rivers	177
(F) Roads	179
(G) In retrospect	181
<b>9 Technology and the transformation of the Soviet economy</b>	<b>182</b>
<i>Robert Lewis</i>	
(A) Under Tsarism	182
(B) Technological change, 1917–1928	183
(C) Technology and the industrialisation debate	184
(D) Technical change, 1928–1940	188
(E) Closing the technological gap?	190
(F) Technology and Soviet economic growth	192
<b>10 Foreign economic relations</b>	<b>198</b>
<i>Robert Lewis</i>	
(A) Under Tsarism	198
(B) War, revolution and civil war	200
(C) The NEP years	202

## Contents

ix

(D) The plan era, 1929–1941	206
(E) The foreign sector in Soviet development	214
<b>11 The First World War and War Communism, 1914–1920</b>	<b>216</b>
<i>Peter Gatrell</i>	
(A) The work force	216
(B) Investment	221
(C) Agricultural production and food supply	226
(D) Industrial production	232
<b>12 The Second World War</b>	<b>238</b>
<i>Mark Harrison</i>	
(A) Production	239
(B) Foreign economic relations	250
(C) Capital	252
(D) Labour	256
(E) Food	261
(F) Two world wars in economic comparison	265
<i>Tables</i>	268
<i>Glossary</i>	324
<i>Notes</i>	330
<i>Bibliography</i>	358
<i>Index</i>	374